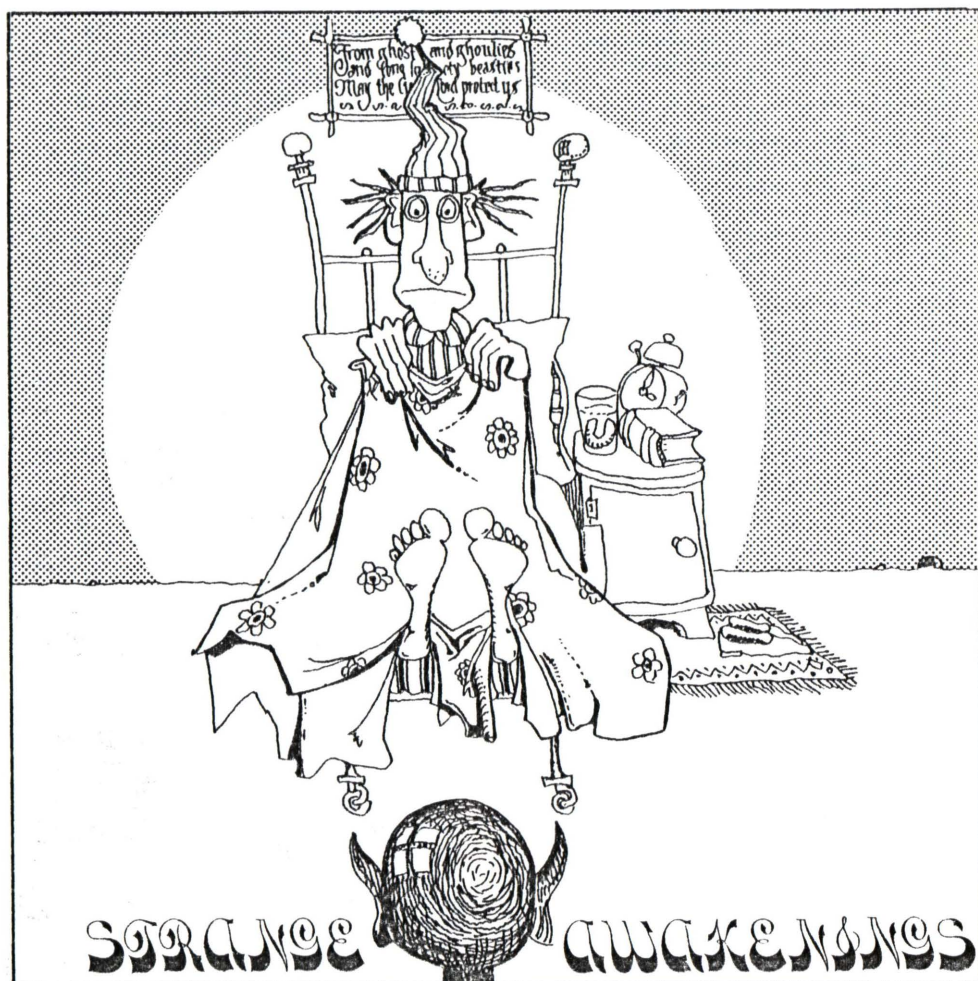


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EDITOR: EDITORIAL PANEL

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Following our comments in MUFOB 12 on the unauthorised reprint of our review of the book "Prelude to the Landing on Planet Earth" in BUFORA Journal, we have been in correspondence with the editor, Mr Norman Oliver.

Mr Oliver assures us that the review, which was submitted to BUFORA Journal by a contributor, was accepted by him in good faith as an original review. The person responsible has been identified to MUFOB. Mr Oliver expresses his regret that this has occurred, and informs us that he will be taking steps to see that such an event cannot occur again. We understand that a statement on this matter will appear in the next issue of BUFORA Journal.

We are pleased to accept Mr Oliver's apologies and assurances, and regard this matter as being amicably settled.

We have held our present subscription rate now for almost two years, despite increasing costs in that period. Unfortunately we can no longer continue to absorb these increases, and are reluctantly forced to increase our subscription rates to £1.75 (or \$4.00 for overseas readers).

We realise that this is quite a large percentage increase, and hope to lessen the blow to some extent by increasing our regular page count to twenty. This will mean that the price per page is practically the same as before.

Readers can help forestall future increases by endeavouring to enrol as many new subscribers as possible, and we repeat our offer of extending a subscription by one issue for every new reader one of our present subscribers introduces.

Our founder editor, John Harney, was visiting his local branch of chain book-sellers W H Smith, when amongst the records birthday cards and pocket calculators he spied a book intriguingly entitled "Men in Black". Imagine his chagrin on reading the subtitle: "75 years of New Zealand Rugby".

STRANGE AWAKENINGS

Keith Basterfield

Several years ago I was involved in the investigation of a Close Encounter, which had all the ingredients of a really good case. The details were duly obtained and the reports and investigation notes were published (1), although my notes ended as follows:

Taking all available details into consideration, and given that at the moment we are unable to interview the driver, we consider that there are reasons to query this observation as a part of the phenomenon we are studying. However the details are related and documented for future reference.

This doubt in my mind was brought about by several features of the report, which to me suggested either a misinterpretation of a conventional stimulus (I suggested an old, oval-shaped caravan) or a dream. Firstly, let us take a look at the report to see what was described. I will underline the points I wish to draw to your attention.

At about 3am on a day believed to be the 6th September 1973, a Miss R. had been asleep for about an hour in the passenger side of the cabin of a semi-trailer, which was travelling between Adelaide and Perth.

She relates hearing a voice telling her to wake up and look out of the window. She looked out and saw an object off to the left hand side of the road, stationary. As the truck continued on at about 70-80 kph she studied closely what she states was clearly visible as an egg-shaped object on the ground, illuminating the surroundings. A figure was noted walking towards an opening in the 'egg', with another figure to be seen inside the object. Then the glow which had been surrounding the egg died, leaving only one small white light still shining. The whole event seemed only to last for seconds, then the witness asked the driver to stop. By the time he did so, and they looked back, the white light was the only thing visible. As the semi-trailer travelled along the road the object was on the left hand side at an estimated distance

of 15mts. As Miss R. watched she had an end view, then a front view, and finally a view of the other end. It was on the ground, with the bottom portion hidden by scrub. Appearing oval in shape, it had openings which Miss R. said looked just like a door and window. The overall size was estimated as about 3m high by 5-6m long. The entire object was alight with a glow which seemed to come from all over and within it. This glow illuminated the ground and air, gradually fading off as distance increased from the source. She is uncertain, but feels the oval may have been semi-transparent as she thinks she followed the movement of one figure moving around inside other than by seeing through the door and window.

As soon as she noticed the object, she also became aware of the two figures. One was visible through the window from the shoulder up, and the other was walking onto the object's illumination. The latter appeared to be looking at something in its hand. It walked to the door and stepped inside, moved to the left, and appeared to talk to the figure sitting down, then reached up one hand to the back wall, and then the glow surrounding the egg died down.

This dimming of the glow was described by the witness as unlike anything she had ever seen before. The glow seemed to shrink in size until just surrounding the egg, then dimmed to nothing.

The illumination was good, something that Miss R. emphasised remained vividly in her memory between the time of the event, and her relating it to us twelve months later. She was at a loss to compare the colour and glow to anything she knew. Although her viewing time was short, she was able to notice a good deal of detail about the scene, including the two figures. They were of human height, about 190cm tall, of average build, with a neck, two arms and body like ours. There were in fact no differences with seeing a human being at that distance.

The figure which walked into the glow

was wearing a one-piece, loose fitting white or silver coloured outfit which seemed to be gathered at the wrists and ankles. As far as could be seen the figure sitting down was dressed the same way.

At about 2 to 2.15am Miss R. had felt tired and had curled up on the seat, intending to sleep for some hours. At about 3am she was asleep when she "heard" a male voice "warmly" and softly telling her to look out of the window. In reaction to this she woke up feeling fresh, and immediately looked out of the left hand window to see the object and figures. At no stage apparently was this visible to the driver. She is adamant that it was not the driver who woke her up, as he had asked her what she was doing when she moved to look at the object. The driver did not mention seeing anything as the truck approached the spot where presumably the object should have been when Miss R. awoke. She waited for several seconds taking in all the details, and then when the glow had gone out asked the driver to stop. Her recollection as to whether they got out of the truck or not is vague. However she does recall that the driver was not particularly interested in the white glow that was visible behind them, so they drove on.

Miss R. was English and 32 years old, originally coming from East Anglia in about 1971. Since then she had spent her time travelling about Australia, just seeing the country and working in different places. At the time of the interview she was working in a town store. She said that she had read stories of UFO "abductions", and that she had been determined not to stop the truck until the light went out.

This case continued to puzzle me as I researched other close encounters. Eventually I took a look at these events and made a broad and arbitrary division between two categories - "accidental" and "deliberate". I made this division as I was interested in cases where the phenomenon was encountered and it broke off the event (accidentally discovered), and cases where the phenomenon seemed to instigate the event (deliberate). The deliberate cases I broke into two subcategories - (a) those where the reporter was awake at the time, and (b) those where the reporters say they were awoken to see the events. Sub-category (a) cases were found to occur at any time of the day or night, whereas (b) events tended to cluster between 0130 and 0430 hrs. Of course one would expect cases where the reported was asleep to occur between say 11pm and 6am, however the cases fell in a shorter time span of three hours instead of the possible seven. This I

found of particular interest - why in the small hours of the morning?

In an article in MUFON Journal in December 1976, I speculated along lines similar to the above, and included the suggestion that the reporters be regressed under hypnosis and asked to relate their experience as it happened, while their brain-wave patterns were monitored. I put forward the idea that if the brain-waves showed a predominance of Theta waves, medically associated with imagery, then the event might have been all in the mind, i.e. self-generated (2).

This article was followed by another in the Bulletin of the Australian Co-ordinating Section of the Center for UFO Studies (3) in which David Seargent and myself pointed out that there was a peak of certain close encounters between 1.30 and 4.30am, and that there were six Australian cases where people had woken up and reported seeing either an object or an entity. At least two of these, Ivy Tanks (the case outlined above) and Gumm Creek, both personally investigated, were puzzling because of their dream-like qualities.

In June 1978 after collecting and publishing a source catalogue of 350 Australian close encounters (4) I saw that there were quite a few cases which presented data along similar lines. Reading the literature also brought up the seemingly parallel cases of "Bedroom Invaders" (5), reports where people awoke to find entities in their bedrooms. Sometimes reporters in these cases were "paralysed" and could do nothing but watch.

It would seem that until now little has been done with these cases other than to document them and treat them as genuine observations of UFOs or their occupants. Some researchers have drawn attention to the similarities between this type of event and psychic experiences, but few seem to have sought a cause.

Recent reading of psychological literature shows that there is a strong possibility of our early-morning cases where reporters wake, are not related to UFOs, ETH, transdimensional or ultraterrestrials or supernatural causes. In fact there is a known psychological phenomenon which seems to fit all the data in these instances.

Psychologists have long been aware of a type of imagery which is self-generated in the human mind. It is the perception of something which is not input through the normal sense organs, although it is encountered in normal healthy people in the period between sleep and wakefulness. The intermediate state between wakefulness and

sleep is termed hypnagogic; and between sleep and final wakefulness is hypnopompic.

Hypnopompic images most often occur with the eyes closed, but may also happen with the eyes open in a darkened environment. Their content is visual or auditory but may also include sensations of heat or cold, small or touch. They may be reproductions of events of the day, or strange, foreign, or bizarre images which can be at times pleasing or frightening. A person has little control over their appearance, departure or content. One of the most basic auditory images is hearing ones name being called, bringing one to ones full senses. The most common visual image is of "faces in the dark".

Very often the images are vivid and realistic, and there is an unusual clarity of detail. Durations range from a few seconds to minutes, and persons experiencing them comment on the unusual quality of the colour and lighting, using such phrases as 'strange luminosity'.

The incidence of some kind of imagery amongst healthy individuals has been found from surveys to range from 51-77% of the population, and because of its sometimes bizarre nature it can be related to supernatural causes by some people. As an example of just how real these images can be to a normal person I will relate one such account. A young couple had a routine of the wife getting breakfast ready for her husband and then seeing him off to work. One morning she recalled getting out of bed, washing, dressing, preparing breakfast and then kissing her husband goodbye. At this point she "woke up" to find her husband kissing her goodbye. She was still in bed, and had been all the time, while her husband had got up and made his own breakfast. To her the image was real, coloured and three-dimensional, and could not be distinguished from reality.

Now back to Ivy Tanks, our semi-trailer case. I would put forward the suggestion that in this case, where a woman heard her name being called, with the unusual clarity of detail the unusual colour and lighting, was actually a hypnopompic image.

In researching the literature I have found a number of such cases which have some or all the characteristics of images. Doubtless there will be many others which come to the readers' mind (including some apparitional events) which could be explained in this manner. Let us look at some of the ones I have come across. (Summarised in Table One)



1. JULY 1967 0300 hrs, Palma, Spain

The daughter of Count de Ribas was awakened by an intense light coming from the patio. She saw two small figures at the window apparently speaking to each other. They had very large heads and huge eyes. The witness tried to turn on the light but it did not work. She went out and got her coat; when she returned all had vanished except for two small footprints outside the window. (6)

2. JULY 18, 1967 0130 hrs, Boardman, Ohio. The Revd A de Polo was woken by a very loud noise, "the type you hear on TV science fiction programmes". He felt that a mental message was being conveyed to him. He went downstairs and in the driveway was a 5ft tall figure wearing a luminous 'space suit'. The surrounding glow made the figure very distinct. He received another 'message'; looking up he saw the sky was strangely illuminated. When he turned his eyes to the driveway again he saw that where the figure had been was now a formless blob of light, which faded and vanished. He returned to bed and "fell asleep immediately" (7).

3. JUNE 22, 1972, 0200hrs Logrono, Spain. A 20 year old student was in bed reading when he suddenly perceived that the room seemed to grow brighter. He put his book down and saw an intensely powerful light was coming through the two shutters of his window, the window opened by itself and a luminous object entered at a height of 2mts. It stopped, and the light from it was very brilliant. The student tried to sink into bed, terrified. A transistor radio which was switched on although there was no station broadcasting, emitted a high-pitched noise which he taped with a portable recorder. The object put out a beam to the radio and recorder, finally it went straight towards the window, and vanished. The student did not go to the window to look out as he was more concerned with getting a recording of the noise. Upon being questioned, he said that the radio has visibly swayed when the beam was on it; however "not a single trace was left by the passage of the object". (8) No comment was made in the source as to whether or not the tape had recorded the noise. One presumes not, otherwise it would probably have been tendered as evidence.

4. OCT. 15 1973, Omro, Wisconsin, 0500 hrs

The witness was awoken by a brief, high pitched sound and his room was lit up by a bright orange-red glow. Three humanoids 4-5ft tall were seen to materialise. They had bald heads, greyish-white wrinkled skin and rounded ears, and moved mechanically. The witness passed out then

came to on the floor, propped against a wall unable to move. The entities were examining him with an oval device which showed the bones of his leg as it passed over them. He had a severe headache and passed out again. He awakened towards dawn still on the floor. The light was on and the bedsheets were folded neatly back. He reported the incident to CUFOS. There are some inconsistencies in the story, according to Webb (9).

5. OCT. 17, 1973. 0345hrs, Pikesville, Maryland. A woman was awoken by the sound of an explosion. She heard a loud humming, walked out onto the front porch and saw a red coloured transparent object. On top was a bubble with a human figure standing up (10).

6. OCT. 28, 1973. Night, Reno, Nevada. During the early hours of the morning the witness went to the window and saw three "very large" saucer shaped objects hovering across the street. A "ground crew" of 10-12 figures wearing dull-glowing "cube-type" uniforms were milling around as if in search of something. A very low pitched hum was heard but no barking by her or neighbours' dogs. When two of the men approached her driveway she took alarm and returned to bed where she fell asleep immediately. There was no confirmation of anything unusual from neighbours and no traces were found (11).

7. SEPT. 1973, Ivy Tanks, South Australia Described earlier (12).

8. FEB. 3, 1964. 0200hrs, Gum Creek, SA. A lady awoke and looked out of the window; suddenly "like a movie screen descending" a figure materialised. The illumination was as bright as day. The entity was described in fine detail. He walked towards the bedroom window and the lady sank down into bed and fell asleep. There were no traces (12).

9. FEB 1976 (approx.), 2300 hrs, Hobart, Tasmania. A man and his wife had gone to bed and the wife had already gone to sleep. The man put out the light and was about to settle down in bed when he saw the doorway with the door closed appear to get darker. Three figures came through the closed door. One put his hand on the man's leg, which went dead; another then tried to put a bag over the man's legs under the bedclothes. He called out to his wife and threw a cigarette lighter, cigarettes and ash tray towards her to wake her up. She started to put on the light whereupon the figures stepped over the bed and through the window which seemed to burst open in an orange glow. By the time she looked, there was nothing there. The objects thrown were found by her bed. (13)

10. JAN 14, 1972. 0200 hrs, Burra, South Australia. Awakening for no apparent reason a lady went to the bedroom window and immediately saw a red mushroom shaped object rising from nearby hills into the sky (14).

Table One outlines the cases above. As can be seen, all are nocturnal events with seven reported as occurring between the hours of 1.30 and 3.35 am, and one unknown beyond that it was between 1 and 5 am. Six occurred to women and four to men. In seven cases the single reporters were awoken by stimuli, while one was reading (actually fallen asleep?) and the other two are unknown.

We note throughout these cases that there is a recurrence of vivid illumination, figures materialising/dematerialising, or the reporter falling asleep immediately after the cessation of the event. Some cases could almost certainly be related to what we know of images (Ivy Tanks, Gum Creek, Boardman, Omro, Hobart) while others could be borderline cases (eg. Pikesville).

It seems that we do not have enough information in many of these cases to provide a reason why the brain might have chosen to portray an image of entities and objects rather than pink elephants. However, I feel that a clue may lie with the Ivy Tanks reporter when she said "I think the voice woke me because he knew how much I wanted to see one of these things." Wish fulfillment, as in dreams, could be the main factor, the person genuinely wanting to see one of these UFO things. This mechanism certainly needs clarification, and possibly the investigator in such cases could inquire into the belief patterns of the reporter, their dream and sleep patterns, etc.

I have discussed the observed properties of hypnogogic and hypnopompic images and put forward several reported encounters where I believe there is a good chance that images provide the explanation.

There is certainly need for much more research in this area, for if nocturnal awakenings generate what is reported as a UFO close encounter, then could possibly events where encounters are related as happening to normal, healthy people driving a car or walking along a road at night be due to images spontaneously generated within the brain? For remember, the same "clarity of detail", "vivid illumination" etc. occurs in most encounters. Furthermore, could "abductions" be an extreme case of our night-time images? In these events seemingly impossible things

occur, reporters "float", "see bones through skin", "enter object by unknown means", "invisible internal illumination fittings" etc. In at least one Australian case (Fankston, 1972) a lady who lapsed into an unconscious state related she was in a chamber with no apparent means of escape and lit by a light for which there was no source, whilst still physically in the presence of two other people in a car, who saw nothing.

If this were so, then there would be very few UFO cases left to explain. One could postulate that "car stop events", where an object was stated to have stopped

a car, and for which we have been unable to come up with an acceptable mechanism, never really happened except in the mind of the driver. This would only leave the very small percentage of cases where two or more reporters saw an object at close range, or those cases where undeniable physical traces were found.

In summary, the subject and hypothesis of imagey in normal, healthy people causing reported close encounters with the UFO phenomenon, may provide some clues to at least a number of the cases on record to date.

TABLE ONE

DATE	TIME	PLACE	REP.	INCIDENT
03.02.64	0200	Gum Creek S. Aust	Woman	Awoken no apparent reason. Entity in garden. Figure materialised. Vivid Illumination. Fine detail noted. No traces. Fell asleep immediately
--.07.67	0300	Palma, Spain	Woman	Awoken by intense light. 2 entities at window. Tried to turn on light, wouldn't work.
18.07.67	0130	Boardman USA	Man	Awoken by loud noise Entity in drive. Figure very distinct, sky strangely illuminated. Figure faded. Fell asleep.
14.02.72	0200	Burra S. Aust	Woman	Awoken, no apparent reason. Object in sky. Went to window for no apparent reason. No sound.
22.06.72	0200	Lugond Spain	Male	In bed reading, room became brighter. Object came into room, window opened itself. Light vivid. Object left through window. No traces
06.09.73	0300	Ivy Tanks S. Aust	Woman	Awoken by voice. 2 entities and object. Strange "force field", vivid detail, unusual colour and glow. Not visible to driver. Desire to see UFO
15.10.73	0100 0500	Omro, USA	Male	Awoken by high pitched sound. 3 entities in room. Materialised, room lit brilliantly. Entity had device that showed bones. Inconsistencies in acct.
17.10.73	0345	Pikesville USA	Woman	Awoken by explosion, walked to porch, object and entity. Heard loud humming.
28.10.73	Night	Reno, USA	Woman	10-12 figures, no barking of dogs, Fell asleep immediately. No traces.
--.02.73	2300	Hobart Tasmania	Man	Awake? 3 entities. Enter via closed door, leave via closed window.

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More strange awakenings

JENNY RANGLES

The UFO Investigators Network (UFOIN) was founded in spring 1977 to fill what many saw as a void in UFO investigations. The existence of such a freelance network in this country has had several effects, but most notably has paved the way for a more flexible approach towards UFO investigation. In this article I shall refer to the work of three investigation teams, in anticipation of more to follow.

Case number one may seem ordinary, but I include it here because of the light it throws on the subsequent one, which is far from ordinary.

Carol Tounnesen came to UFOIN as a writer for the BBC who was going to produce a series of plays about UFOs; meantime she has found herself enmeshed in the web of UFO investigation.

Her first investigation concerned an event that took place at the overspill development of Killingworth, to the north of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. All we know for sure about the date is that it was around February 1978, and occurred at 5am.

The prime witness is a nurse called Linda who was awoken, as was her mother in a separate bedroom, by a loud noise. The roaring noise grew louder, and they were convinced that a jet was about to crash into the house. The older lady decided to seek the dubious protection of her bedclothes, whilst Linda rushed to her bedroom window. As she pressed her face against the pane to look out, the noise changed suddenly and dramatically. It had been going for a minute or two, so this 'coincidence' is interesting. The noise became a high-pitched whining, and within a second or two a huge object sailed into view.

It was like a large cigar tube, the colour of polished metal, surrounded on its sides by myriads of tiny lights. The whole thing revolved on its axis and floated serenely by her window in a gap between her house and the one next door.

There is no doubt that this thing came within a few feet of where Linda stood. She says that had she reached out she was sure she could have touched it. The UFO then glided out of view beyond some more houses in the distance. The mother then promptly went back to sleep, while Linda was awake all night in utter panic. There were several other people in the house, and many hundreds in adjacent buildings, but no-one else saw this thing, and so far as we can tell nobody else heard it either.

So what are the explanations? A shared hallucination; certainly the experience was very personally oriented towards Linda (who claims to have had no previous psychic experiences or encounters with mysterious phenomena), or could the catalyst have been Linda's mother? Maybe the transfer of experiences took place by a form of telepathy?

The noise in this case seems to have acted as a trigger to ensure that these witnesses experienced the phenomenon. This is something noticed in other cases. One such is that of the Lomax couple, elderly people who live in Essex, whose experiences were investigated by Andy Collins and Roy Lake.

Between 1975 and 1978 the Lomaxes have been plagued by 'the Noise'. This is apparently a peculiar sound that it is hard for them to describe, but seems to resemble a rushing of swirling air that builds up and dies down in six seconds or so. It becomes very loud and seems as if something is about to land on their roof, but then continues away. Both Mr and Mrs Lomax have heard it, together and separately, but nobody else in the neighbourhood, which consists of densely populated terraced houses, has done so.

These events become more interesting on consideration of Mrs Lomax's 'dream'. This concerns a ride in a UFO, and is archetypal in its description of occupants who are tall, with grey one-piece suits and long faces. The investigators were concerned to check for possible psychic experiences, of which there seemed to be several. Noises and footsteps have been heard inside the house when nobody else has been present; unexplained 'cold spots' TV and lights switching on and off or dimming on their own; radio sets giving out whistles or miscellaneous rude noises. In fact a fairly comprehensive catalogue of poltergeist-type events.

It matters little what interpretation is put on these events. One could claim that it is senility or imagination. But this is untenable, as the descriptions mirror so closely other well documented

Continued on Page 15

INTCAT

AN INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE
OF TYPE I UFO RECORDS.

Compiled by Peter Rogerson
Information for, and comments on, this
catalogue should be sent to:
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MANCHESTER, M31 1UE, ENGLAND

800 1958 (approx year) 0300 hrs
VALLEE DE RIO BLANCO (ACUNGAGNA, CHILE)
An undisclosed number of people were climbing a path when they felt afraid and apprehensive so walked on slowly. On reaching the top they saw a luminous disc 1.5m alt. with many small beings underneath running from side to side as if working on something. The witnesses fled, and were reluctant to talk to the scientist partner of one of their number. The scientist had doubts about the case, due to its fantastic nature and the technical knowledge of the witnesses. (Heiden - Petrowitsch)

801 1957 (approx. year) Night
BRAGADO (BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA) Musician Jose Passo, fifteen members of his orchestra and the driver of their bus were 40km. from Bragado when they saw a large, bright contraption 400m from the highway. They at first thought it was an aircraft in flames, but when two of the party got within 150m they saw it was disc-shaped, with a searchlight on top projecting a vivid white light. It was hovering just off the ground, and was making a loud engine noise. The party continued their journey, but stopped at the spot on their return trip and noticed that grass at the site was totally calcined. (FSRCH 15, p.10 - La Razón, 4 July 68)

802 1958 2300 hrs
WOODSTOCK (NEW JERSEY) Two teenage girls saw three oval shaped object with domes on top, hovering at 'telephone pole height' over the airport. They were gunmetal grey, without light or noise, and had windows with slots all round. Before the objects arrived the girls had an 'eerie' feeling, and stayed in the car all through the 5-10 min. observation. One of the objects returned and landed on a golfcourse. A door opened then closed again. Two machines moved back and forth. The girls told their parents and friends but were not believed. (FSR 12,2, p.18+22 - Schwarz)

803 1958
ALKLAVIK (N.W. TERR., CANADA) Special Constable Alex Stephansson and his wife were returning to Aklavik from Inuvik 56km east across the Mackenzie River Delta by snowmobile when, about 32km out, they saw the lights of what they thought was another snowmobile coming toward them. As it got closer they saw it was above the treetops, so they thought it

might be a light aircraft. When they got closer the light became so bright they had to stop. The light also stopped, hovering 15 ahead of them. Mrs Stephansson was so terrified that she fled from the snowmobile, and had to be brought back by her husband. The light was so intense that they could take only fleeting glances at it, and were not able to see any structure. After a few minutes it moved away. (John Musgrave - unidentified cutting)

804 January 1958 0130 hrs
DEPEW (NEW YORK) A lady, who did not wish her name to be revealed, was driving along the NY State Thruway in the vicinity of Niagara Falls. There was a violent snow-storm, and she was driving with extreme caution when she saw what appeared to be a crashed plane on the central parkway. A large shape & a thin rod at least 15m high were visible, as her engine and lights failed. Two shapes emerged from the illuminated rod, which appeared to be sticking in the ground; the shapes seemed to be suspended from the rod, but moved about it. They resembled animals with four legs, a tail and two front feelers like arms, under a head. They disappeared suddenly and then the shape rose to 10m where she saw it was shaped like a saucer. It sped away and the car's power returned. She examined the area with a flashlight and discovered an area of melted snow 30m diam., the grass in which was warm. (M454 - Vallee IIIA p.16 - Otto Binder)

805 January 1958 2100 hrs
VIAMO (RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRASIL) An estate owner, his wife and their teenage (?) son and daughter, and the manager of the Lagea Negra Fazenda in this municipality, saw a round machine 10m. diam 3m thick, with a hat like cupola, and a protrusion underneath with a metallic gleam emitting a powerful "cold" reddish light which made their eyes burn and penetrated into the house. It was hovering 3m above the ground, 400m away. Out came two beings 2m tall, dressed in white overalls with broad waistbands and high collars of a dark colour. They had full-faces and shoulder-length hair, and were caucasoid in appearance, with large bare feet and long hands. The daughter said that the "looked like saints". They walked rigidly, not bending their legs. They were followed by three small beings 1.4m tall wearing chestnut brown overalls, long hair and small boots. They walked rapidly, never leaving the area beneath the disc. The two large men went to a fence, getting as far as the drainage ditch the retreating. Then they came to a bridge by a gate over the ditch, again retreated then came back along the first route, opened the gate and walked towards the house. The two men had taken up positions lying under a palm-tree, where they could see without being seen, and the others were in the house; the boy hiding under the bedclothes, the mother and daughter at the partly closed door. The normally savage dogs did not react as the beings approached, and they were only stopped by the daughter's

awestruck explanation and the mother's terrified call to the men. After some hesitation the two beings turned back, 60m from the house, & rejoined the others by the disc, which they re-entered before it rose with a slight rotary movement. The next day two sets of footprints were found at the site. (FSRCH 5, p.3 - Pereira - GCIOANI: COS-MOS 1,8, p.6 - Phenom. Spat. 20) (UFO Critical Bulletin III, 1, p.3 - Garrison, p.73) THERE HAS BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF CONFUSION ABOUT THE DATE OF THIS REPORT. FSRCH GIVES JAN. 1968, COS-MOS GIVES JAN. 1959, BOTH TAKEN FROM THE SAME SOURCE. UFO CRIT. BULL. GIVES THE DATE AS 1958, WHICH IS USED HERE. THE AGE OF THE TWO CHILDREN IS CONFUSED ALSO, FSRCH SAYS THEY HAD SECONDARY EDUCATION, WHILE COS-MOS SAYS THE DAUGHTER WAS "A LITTLE GIRL".

806 4 January 1958

STAVANGER (NORWAY) A Woodcutter saw an object land, and a very tall man get out. He had a tanned face and was wearing a helmet. After a few minutes the craft took off with a noise like a flock of birds. Airforce officers and policemen searched the snow covered hill for traces. (M455 - FSR 4,3, p.iii) THIS SOURCE DOES NOT GIVE THE DATE. I DO NOT KNOW THE ORIGIN OF VALLEE'S INFORMATION ON THIS POINT)

807 10 January 1958.

GUARAJA (SAO PAULO, BRASIL) Capt. Chrysologo was sitting with his wife on their porch overlooking the South Atlantic, trying to pick out a small island with his binoculars. When he focussed, he saw it was not an island, but a dark grey object in two parts, one in the sea and one above it. Eight other people were hurriedly called; suddenly both parts sank out of sight. Shortly after a steamer went past on a course which would have taken it very close to the object. 5 mins. later when the ship was out of sight the object reappeared. The on-lookers now saw clearly that the two parts were connected by several upright shafts, up and down of which small boat-like objects passed in irregular motion. Soon the two halves closed and the contraption submerged, before local Air Force planes could investigate. (FSR 11, p.20 - Bowen - Circulo da Amizado Sideral Bulletin 5)

808 13 January 1958 2345 hrs

FARM HILL (NSW, AUSTRALIA) Brian Crittendon (21) was driving home when he saw a dome shaped object which directed a bright, narrow beam of light towards the ground. It pursued him for 5km along the Penn's Road, at 9m alt., 45m away, overtaking him despite his speed of 110kpm, swooping down on his car several times. He noticed interference on his radio several times. He was so afraid that he drove part of the way home on a half flat tyre. (M457 - UFO Bulletin, March 1958 :: Hervey Ia p.38)

809 15 January 1958 1830 hrs

SACRED HEART (MINNESOTA) Richard Hoberg (29) a pharmacist at the Packer Drug Store, New Ulm, was driving to Granite Falls on business. He had passed Sacred Heart, and

was entering the downhill section that cross a bridge over Hawk Creek, when he saw a large, silvery grey object gliding along the ground to his front and left, in a field. As he approached, it took off with a tremendous burst of speed. He saw it was shaped like a saucer with a round dome on top; the outside edge spinning and giving off bursts of sparks from pipes projecting from the circumference. On the dome were three or four triangular windows, each having three sections, and giving out a bright yellow light. The object was about 10-15m diam., 5m deep at thickest part. The witness observed the object for only a few seconds before it sped off. (Fate UK, Aug 1966 - Arthur Strauch - Richard Hoberg)

810 26 January 1958 1600 hrs

SHIMADA CITY (SHIZUOKA, JAPAN) A very bright object flew from the direction of Suruga Bay towards the Obi River estuary. It hovered and landed on the river bank near the City, where it was seen by several workers at a nearby chemical plant. Shortly after, some schoolboys saw beings dressed in divers' suits descend from the sky without parachutes. One boy reported that they spoke in a language 'like a monkey's chatter'. (FSR 4,3, p.iii - Shizuoka Shinbun, n.d.)

811 30 January 1958

LIMA (PERU) Truck, bus and car passengers felt a shock, and the motors of all three vehicles failed as an object descended and hovered. (Cramp II, p.213)

812 February 1958 Morning

EAGLE POINT (OREGON) Mrs M. walked to her kitchen window. Looking out to the road in front of her house she saw a huge object hovering 10m above a lake of backed-up rain water from an irrigation ditch. The object was a disc, 150-180m diam., of "hot" amber colour. The flat underside was surrounded by spheres 3-4.5m apart; a funnel extended into the water below. The top was featureless. She and her 4-year-old son saw the object, which was humming, for some 20 mins., when the funnel retracted leaving only a bulge. Then the whole machine moved up slowly until the edges of the window obscured it from view. As the object rose the fog which had hung about the area lifted and did not reappear until 1000 hrs. (APRO 24, 10, p.4 - Lorenzen: The Shadow of the Unknown)

813 2 February 1958 1530 hrs

HOKKAIDO (JAPAN) Farmer Yasukichi Nakaguchi, his son, and Mr Kametaro Takuma saw an egg-shaped object pass over the area, and apparently land in nearby hills. (FSR 4,3, p.iii)

814 19 February 1958 0400 hrs

PONTA PORAN (MATTO GROSSO, BRASIL) Mrs Mendonca, her overseer, a farm hand and Mr Goncalves were driving back to the farm, when at Porteira Ortiz they saw a red light which zig-zagged down to just above the road, becoming dazzling white. It then paced them

back to town, where it stopped over the Army HQ. Mrs Mendonca collected a small crowd, including 6 members of the Saldanha family. The object followed this party back to Porteira Ortiz, where it ascended in stages, vanishing at 0600 hrs. (Lor Ib, p.149 - Fontes)

815 19 February 1958 2230 hrs

PONTA PORAN (MATTO GROSSO, BRASIL) Prof. Cicero Claudino da Silva, law student Mustafa Esqab, Alegario Campos and Dr Joao Manuel Vasquez drove to Porteira Ortiz, where a redish light oscillated down, increasing in size and brilliance; illuminating the ground as it came very close to the car. It was then joined by a second object. They raced back to town leaving the objects behind. A convoy of sight seers returned to the area, but saw nothing. (Lor Ib, p.149 - Fontes)

816 20 February 1958 0330 hrs

COLONIA DE FERIAS BOCAINA (BRASIL) Several boys spending their holiday on a holiday ranch belonging to their teacher, Mr Alta Araujo Alves, saw a "butterdish" shaped object manoeuvring 20m above a bamboo plantation. It had a red-blue light. Eventually it returned to its original position, where it stayed to 0530 hrs. The object had a diameter of 15m and made "falling leaf" moves. Among the witnesses were the ranch-owner, Roberto Ricardo, Marcos R Araujo Alves (19), Luis de Castro (14), Mr & Mrs Evaristo Maderia and their son Carlos (14). (UFO Critical Bulletin 11,2, p.20)

817 20 February 1958

ESPANOLA (NEW MEXICO) Two women received skin burns from an object, which some reports say had landed giving off bright red flashes. A geiger-counter test is said to have indicated radioactivity. (Heiden - UFO Evidence p.97 + Maney & Hall, p.112 - San Diego Union, 21 Feb 1958: Flying Saucers, June 1971, p.8 - Fawcett)

818 24 February 1958 0305 hrs

CONCEICAO ALMEIDA (BRASIL) Lawyer Carlos J Da Costa Pereira, and his friends Manuel Mendes and Antonio de Araujo, were driving between Mazare and Salador, when between the villages of San Antonio de Jesus and Conceicao Almeida, their engine spluttered and stopped, so the decided to sleep in the car. They then saw a huge luminous object hovering overhead, it glow changing between silver and blue. As it approached they saw behind the glow a 'Saturn shaped' machine, with the ring spinning at high speed. It descended till about 27m alt., 70m away, then descended with a 'falling leaf' motion to about 2.5-3.5m above ground. The object, approximately 20m diameter, was slightly flattened, and rather smaller at the top. It projected a cone of light onto the ground, about twice its own diameter. As Pereira and Araujo approached, the object took off and began to "dance" across the sky, once again getting to within 3m. of the ground and taking off as they approached. It appeared for the last time at 0600hrs and after its final departure the

engine began to work again (Lor Ib, p.151 - Fontes)

819 2 March 1958 1945hrs

TAMPA (FLORIDA) A civilian saw a balloon shaped object land on an airfield, then take off slowly and hover at 250m alt. before disappearing. It displayed a bright light. (M461 - Atic)

820 3 March 1958 2230 hrs

PONTA PORAN (MATTO GROSSO, BRASIL) Mario Goncalves (case 814), his girlfriend, brother and some friends again drove onto the road. The boys went out with flashlights, while Mario stayed in the jeep with his girl. They saw a light over a thicket, and the boys ran back in panic. A blood-red light lit up the area, and they realised they were right under a polished, metallic object which was only a metre or so above them. It followed them back to town at 3m alt. with a brilliant light, but no heat or sound; the party thought they had lost it when they drove through a wooded area, but when they approached a hill on the other side the object landed on the road blocking their path. As the jeep approached its headlights lit up the object, which wobbled, then took off. The object continued its pursuit of the jeep into town, but at a distance. (Lor Ib, p.150 - Fontes: UFO Critical Bulletin III, 5, p.5)

821 14 March 1958 0845 hrs

HEALDSTONE (CALIFORNIA) Two people in their backyard saw a round object 1m in diam. come from the west and land 15m away. It took off towards the east, turned south and was lost to view (M462 - Atic)

822 19 March 1958

MOSCOW (RUSSIA, USSR) Not far from Moscow a large disc was seen flying at great speed at 3000m. A little later it came down towards the ground with a spiral motion, then started upwards, turned over, and accelerated disappearing behind a nearby forest. (Vallee Ib, p.41 - Qgoniok 11, p.21 - Soukhanov & Skr Zydlatá Polska no 33 - A Trepka & Kridla Vlasti no 18 - M Miler)

823 24 March 1958

CARMEN DE CURA (VENEZUELA) An object was seen at low alt. No details at present. (Petrovich - Guataname)

824 April 1958 0600 hrs

SAUDE (ALAGOAS, BRASIL) Jeweller Wilson Distosa was driving along the beach from Maceio to Paripietra when he encountered some fishermen who said they were looking at a flying saucer. He saw nothing at first, but then heard a hum, which got louder, as an object fell out of the sky to the sea. It rocked and hovered 15m above the sea, 40m away. It had an upper half like an inverted aluminium bowl, with a dome diving of a light as bright as an electric welding arc. The lower half was a similar but dark coloured bowl. Where the two hemispheres met was a band with a number of square "portholes" glowing reddish, except those nearest to the witness

which were darkened. The whole affair was 15 to 20m high and perhaps 30m or so wide. Below the object the water was boiling or being sucked up. Objects like leather thongs hung motionless from the bottom of the machine. During the hour that they watched it the object rose several times, falling back with an earsplitting crash. That night, in the nearby town of Ipioca, a strange, large, circle of light was seen on the ground, the source of which could not be found. An arm extended into the circle would be illuminated but would cast no shadow. (FSR 10,6,p.18 - Creighton - Walter Sa Carlosa first hand :: Heiden - Ribera III, p.280 + Anglada, p.310 + M464 - SBEDV)

825 12 April 1958 2100 hrs
TABLADITAS (JUJUY, ARGENTINA) Armando Avila Carron, a well known university professor was out walking with his wife, 14km from Abra Pampa when they heard a sound like a motorcycle approaching; and the area was illuminated by a bright light which came from a white, glowing object which passed within 20 or 30 mts of them. Its shape was not distinguishable. It was travelling north-south, and almost touching the ground. It then turns away to the east, and vanished at high speed. (FSRCH 17,p.iii - Urionota 9 - Rietti & Vegt:: UFO Critical Bulletin III,1,p.6)

826 17 April 1952 1925 hrs
ABACATU (BRASIL) All night long, three hovering discs were seen by several witnesses in this area. A railroad employee, Mr Cavalheiro, and the stationmaster J Machado, wired the Tu ancireta police, and all saw the objects coming to ground level 1km away. At times they seemed to exchange signals. One of the discs flew over the station, leaving a luminous trail and considerable heat. (M466 - LDLN)

827 30 April 1958 Nightfall
EL PADUL (GRANADA, SPAIN) Mr Lenacio, Jimenez and a shepherd Torcuato Sanchez, saw a very bright craft, 10m diam. descend onto a hillside. Soon afterwards it took off towards Baza, leaving a yellowish trail. (FSR 17,4, p.11 - Radio Broadcast 1 May '58)

828 2 May 1958
BOGOTA (COLOMBIA) Eight people working in a wool saw a green creature with scaly skin and very long arms. The pointed nails of its long fingers nearly touched the ground. (M467 - Bulgarini)

829 16 May 1958 2045 hrs
BIRMINGHAM (WEST MIDLANDS, ENGLAND) Mrs Mary Green of Stockland Green observed through her bedroom window, a rose-pink coloured, pencil shaped object, surrounded by a haze. It descended in a vertical position from high alt. to near to the ground, where it became horizontal and concave. Her observation lasted 9 mins. Mrs Alice Playdon of Sparkwood saw it moving horizontally at the apparent height of the chimneytops; it appeared to be of huge size. Her son Michael observed it

through binoculars from behind his bedroom window. It hovered briefly, descended behind the chimneys, levelled off and moved away. (DIGAP files)

830 28 May 1958 0430 hrs
BOCA DEL TIGRE (ARGENTINA) Remo Dall' Armellina was driving a truck from Cordoba to Santa Fe when he saw alight behind a hill, which he thought was an approaching car. On getting closer he saw the light came from aa being 3m tall, covered with metallic spheres from head to toe. The creature raised its arm above its head and appeared to signal. The witness picked up a crowbar and moved towards it, but was repelled by a powerful stench. As he moved closer and raised the crowbar, the light which the being emitted changed to rose coloured, and Remo felt dizzy, as if drugged, and fainted. When he came to the creature had disappeared. (M468 - Bulgarini + Perego :: Lor IV, p.151 :: Heiden - Ribera III, p.72) THE DATE OF THIS INCIDENT IS NOT CLEAR. VALLEE'S SOURCES SEEM TO SUGGEST 27-28 MAY, RIBERA & LORENZEN GIVE 13-14 JUNE.

831 7 June 1958 2135 hrs
NEW PLYMOUTH (NEW ZEALAND) Messrs Fori, Willette and McCutcheon and three ladies were 10km from New Plymouth when they saw at the base of Mt Egmont, a large, deep-red glow, several hundred meters diam, and over 100 mts. high. After ten minutes they saw a white oval shape, 18m across, rising rapidly from the glow, in a slanting climb to 1200m, where it stopped then shot straight up. At 2215 hrs the glow began to die, and had all gone by 2230. In the following days the three men noted a number of curious electromagnetic effects in the vicinity. (Carl Grove - CSI, New Zealand)

832 12 June 1958 Night
LA BRUSC (VAR, FRANCE) Three fishermen saw an orange light in the sky which descended to just above the surface of the calm sea. It was spherical, 4m diam, and very luminous. It appeared to be revolving and caused a strong air displacement which whipped up the surrounding water. The "wheel" passed very close to their boat, the waves nearly causing it to capsize. The crew experienced a wave of fierce heat, and heard a sort of humming noise. The wheel progressed by skimming along the water at great speed. It finally did a right-angled turn and disappeared out to sea. (FSRCH 14, p.13 - LDLN, Readers Special, 3,5)

833 July 1958 Dawn
MINDURIN (BRASIL) Just after dawn three people saw two giants estimated to be 6m tall dressed in brilliant red garb, climb up the sides of a hill. Only a rear view was obtained. (Humanoids, p.36 - Creighton - Sbedv 26-27 + SBEDV 8 :: Ribera III, p.73)

834 7 July 1958 1100 hrs
SABRANNA GROVE (VENEZUELA) Object seen at low alt. No further details (Pelrowsch)

Towards a revisionist history of Ufology

PETER ROGERSON

One of the commonest cliches that has become associated with ufo beliefs is that "the UFO phenomenon" is of great antiquity. Reference is made to fairy beliefs, the airship waves, etc., in proving this point. Now there is no doubt that there are some parallels between the folklore of fairies and these other manifestations, but to ascribe them to a common "UFO phenomenon" is, I now believe, a gross oversimplification.

These parallels should not be pressed too far. It remains true that many traditional beliefs may be found in modern ufolore, but the latter in no way comprises a true "fairy faith", which according to Professor Reidar Christiansen, as quoted by Briggs (1) "answered the questions of the untimely deaths of young people, of mysterious epidemics among cattle, of climatic disasters, wasting diseases and strokes, infantile paralysis, and the birth of mongol and otherwise deficient children". To which one may add the question of psychological collapse under the stress of intolerable living conditions; and in the case of "changeling myths", a way of society coming to terms with child abuse.

Now, while individual strands of beliefs occur throughout the UFO literature, they do not do so as a coherent whole. The UFO beliefs may have elements of a folklore, but outside of small subcultures, they do not constitute a true mythology around which people structure their lives. However occasional expectations may arise, especially in the so-called 'flap-areas' (ie, areas of social panic). Such panics can spread outwards to cover relatively large areas, as for example, the cattle mutilations scare (2).

The exact origin of the flap situation is difficult to establish, despite works on Warminster (3), Exeter (4),

Uditch Basin (5), Ann Arbor (6,7), Point Pleasant (8) and Stoke-on-Trent (9). Recently such a flap area existed in Dyfed. Despite alleged investigations by ufologists, no really valuable sociological data has been gathered. Several suggestions can be made. For example, the flap may centre on a dominant individual percipient and/or investigator. John Rimmer and Roger Sandell have suggested that flap areas tend to be areas on the urban/rural fringe, or where urbanisation is progressing in hitherto rural areas. John Keel has suggested that the same areas repeatedly generate flaps; the explanation for which (if any) should be sought in sociological terms.

A further point that must be emphasised when dealing with "historical UFO records" is that we have no real justification in assuming that the airship sightings are "nineteenth century UFO waves", at least in the sense that they are occasioned by the same external common source. They are related in that they concern rumour, visions and social panic concerning ariel objects. And they possess such common features as any rumour in which mis-perception of celestial objects plays a part. However the various airship panics of the late 19th and early 20th centuries arose separately, and must be evaluated in terms of the whole spectrum of belief systems of the period. For example the 1909 airship scare coincided with, or was even an integral part of, a larger public hysteria about German spies in Britain. This information, uncovered by Nigel Watson in a study of airship reports in Lincolnshire local papers (10), must have been available to the earlier researchers into 1909, but was presumably ignored as "irrelevant".

It is to much the same historical period that the modern set of "religious

miracles" such as the appearances of the Virgin or the Welsh Revival, can be traced. These phenomena are thought to be the product of social tensions between a conservative peasantry and a cosmopolitan, urban society. The psychological climate which generated Lourdes also led to the explosions of anti-Masonic and anti-Semitic hysteria in France (11). The 1905 Welsh Revival, though less historically famous, has the advantage that it received contemporary sympathetic, non-polemical treatment (12). The Revival was the culmination of a long struggle against "cosmopolitan" and Anglicizing influences. It was a revival not just of Baptist fundamentalism, but of a deeper sense of Welshness. One feature of the glossoria of the period was that people ill-versed in the Welsh language were said to declaim in perfect, classical Welsh while "the spirit moved them".

If we widen our study of the origins of UFO beliefs to consider the full range of folklore and social panics in the 1920 and 1930's, we see how the UFO folklore began to emerge. We can also solve one of the problems which confronted the historians of ufology, when they supposed UFO phenomenon vanished between 1913 and 1943. For of course if rumours of machines in the sky are part of the whole spectrum of popular rumours and social panics, then one rumour is interchangeable with another.

To take this to its logical conclusion, we should question whether the "UFO experience" of the last thirty years is related to a single belief system. Rather we should perhaps think of separate social panics, rumours, folklore and contemporary mythologies, all organised around a common structure of the "flying saucer".

This implies that, beneath the surface the various UFO waves are really quite separate social panics, generated by very disparate circumstances.

The internal content of the reports has varied considerably over the thirty year time period. The material acquired by Kehoe in 1950 (13) can be contrasted with that gathered by Keel in 1967 (14). In the early period of the UFO epoch, the typical UFO report concerned airline pilots encountering strange machines in the sky; the reports of the modern era centre around close encounters and "abductions". It is true that elements of much of the later UFO beliefs can be detected as early as 1947, when 'little men' (15) and MIB (16) occur. However the first report of any sort of abduction case comes in 1954, back dated to 1921 (25).

The 1954 French wave marks, in my view, a new kind of UFO belief-system,

only semantically connected with the American material. It is in this wave that folklore, "fairy-tale" elements first seize the centre of the UFO stage. It is significant that this development took place in a rural society where the wave reached a stage of near-panic in places. Hoaxes and real events co-incided, and the wave occurred at a time of national defeat and government crisis. It also marks a radical departure from a "military" to a "domestic" context.

The evidence suggests that, once set up, the UFO rumours evolved gradually from a secular "military" rumour (as were the 1909 and 1913 airships) to a more "supernatural" set of rumours. As the rumour shifted from an urban to a rural base, strands from traditional belief began to play an increasing role.

The situation is rendered even more complicated than indicated above by virtue of the fact that several belief systems having little in common met under the title of "flying saucers" in the mid 50's. One might argue for the existence of almost totally separate "UFO" and "Flying Saucer" rumours. The former would be exemplified by Ruppelt (17) and chronicled by Jacobs (18), being wholly secular in content, and gaining wide public appeal. The latter might be exemplified by Adamski (19) and chronicled by Flammonde (20), almost wholly religious and supernatural.

The current paradoxical state of the UFO in popular imagination may to some extent be influenced by the fact that the UFO folklore regarded the UFOs as hostile whereas the flying saucer folklore (with a few exceptions like Bender (21)) regarded them as superhuman benevolent forces, almost god-like figures.

An aspect of the subject briefly touched upon above was the "wave phenomenon". Superficially the existence of UFO waves might indicate the presence of some sporadic physical phenomenon generating the reports. However a closer examination suggests that temporal cycles are probably generated by social factors. One must always remember that the contents of such major catalogues as UFOCAT or INTCAT are UFO records (22), many of them reports of very low strangeness value. Dr Johnson (23) has suggested that a type A UFO wave (24), that is a wave which builds slowly and falls suddenly may be an indication of a novel phenomena. However, if we were to envisage a "signal" of an inexplicable phenomenon boosting a "noise" of misidentification, the cut off of the "signal" should not lead to a rapid drop of reports. Rather, the rush of noise would be expected to subside slowly. A study show-

ing a drop in the strangeness of reports preceding a drop in the total of reports might be interesting, though not very conclusive.

The sudden drop in reports which has been noted, suggests a social panic which has been defused by some reassuring statement. Perhaps it is worth noting that such a panic is likely to be generated by the press. It would be an interesting study to see if other press "panics", such as stories about muggers, for example, follow a similar pattern. Of course we cannot exclude more exotic possibilities, such as some periodical physical phenomenon causing people to have hallucinatory experiences or to misperceive conventional stimuli.

It should be noted that hypotheses involving "magical" extramundane intelligence cannot be usefully discussed in scientific terms. If such an intelligence were indeed surveying the Earth, it could rest assured that no conclusive evidence could be determined to prove its existence and that extra-mundane intelligences are not, nor are ever likely to be, socially acceptable interpretations of puzzling experiences. Supporters of the ETH must accept the fact that there is no way that their views can be regarded as anything other than a 'leap of faith', unless the suspected ET's themselves determine otherwise; and suspend their activities in favour of those who are trying to determine whether UFO experiences are a root a "psychological" of "physical" phenomenon.

There are no easy solutions in sight to the UFO experience, and we must resign ourselves to a long, slow process of trial and error studies of possibly related social, psychological and physical phenomena. In this process many popular beliefs about ufology will have to go to the wall.

Continued from Page 8

incidents. Or on the other hand one could suggest that spirit entities are to blame. One medium has suggested that it is a sign that close relatives of Mrs Lomax are looking after her and her husband, although one might think of more reassuring ways of putting this message across! More plausibly, these two events suggest that, like all other 'close encounters', the UFO phenomenon is an inherent facet of those experiencing it.

Finally we may consider the case of Rodney Stewart from South Shields. (We condense Miss Randle's account of this case, as we shall be publishing a full report in a future MUFOB) Rodney has a great interest in esoteric religions and UFOs. He is convinced that they are real

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solid machines, and has made several attempts to communicate with them through meditation, and on at least two occasions has 'summoned' mysterious objects. He also has an interesting background of odd and paranormal events. The investigator, Dirk van der Werff was impressed by Rodney's sincerity and intelligence, and comments that at the time the events were taking place "Rodney was undergoing a very unhappy and emotional period due to a family upheaval..."

A complex puzzle; an indication that the UFO mystery embraces parapsychics and other psychic experiences. Maybe these cannot tell us the answers, but they seem to suggest that rather than looking out to the stars, we must look inwards - in to ourselves.

So long as they spell your name right...

JOHN RIMMER

The old show-business saying has it that "all publicity is good publicity, so long as they spell your name right", and there seem to be those who think that this applies to ufology as well. We wonder how those who are convinced that there is some kind of big government sponsored media plot to play down UFO news are reconciling themselves to the barrage of UFO news that the nation's news media are pounding out at the moment.

First was the alleged "kidnap" of an Australian pilot in October of last year. This merited largely uncritical treatment on most radio and TV channels and newspapers, though information from Australia now seems to suggest that this was a bizarre suicide bid. After the initial media furore died down investigators began to notice serious discrepancies in the stories circulating. Particularly suggestive of premeditation were the facts that the pilot had only filed a one-way flight plan with local air-controllers, had on several previous occasions spoken about possible UFO contacts.

Later a flap in Italy received a great deal of news coverage in the UK, with some very unimpressive film of a star like object hogging a great deal of prime TV news time. Things finally went over the top with the great New Zealand UFO film, which gained the distinction, in a period full of domestic hard-news stories, of being the lead item and taking up almost half of BBC TV's main evening news programme. Again the film is unimpressive, a star-like object, and an out of focus star-like object. We are not impressed by the fact that film crews flew out, in advance expecting to see the UFOs at the same time of night as previous witnesses:

classic symptoms of a misidentification of a star or planet.

Then in January came the long awaited House of Lords debate on UFOs. While this provided slight relief for the political correspondents and ammunition for those who would abolish the House of Lords, it advanced serious ufology not one jot. We are already being plagued by petitions and blarf from fringe organisations claiming credit for the fiasco.

And now that all this publicity has blossomed forth, what is going to happen? Is a Government spokesman, egg visible on his face, going to confront Robin Day and admit that HMG has a UFO captive in (to slightly misquote a memorable phrase) a disused bus-depot in Milton Keynes?

Is the Prime Minister going to take time out from defending his 5% (domestic political reference, overseas readers please ignore) to shamefacedly confess how he and his predecessors have been hiding "The Truth" from the public. Hardly, I think life will go on much as before, with the odd UFO reports to fill in the last few moments of News at Ten when Reggie Bosanquet put away his ball-pen and Anna Ford shuffles her papers in a purposeful manner.

We notice that some ufologists are pinning their faith in Clement Freud's 'Freedom of Information Bill'. Whilst this deserves support on its own merits, I doubt that if successful it will shake much of interest out of Defence files. Its American counterpart has provided a field day for those who like finding the odd item of bureaucratic bungling or general snafu in high places, but nothing fundamental to the UFO mystery has yet emerged. One or two 'good cases' have come to light but nothing much more than we have seen already.

So where do we stand? As usual, on our own. It is increasingly obvious that government agencies are not going to get publicly involved in ufology. Despite the fawning reception it got from ufologists, the French Defence Minister's notorious statement is no more than the typical "we must look at all sides of the question" response that politicians give automatically to questions on anything from UFOs to secondary picketing.

Government sponsorship of any wide-ranging UFO investigation can be ruled out for the foreseeable future. A recent Editorial in FSR (Volume 24, no. 3, November 1978) put the reasons for this in a very succinct unparanoid manner (although some of the points made seemed to be at odds with other statements on Government attitudes made by this and other sources

in the past).

It still remains a legitimate aim of the 'UFO community' to try to broaden the investigative base of the UFO enquiry. But it must accept that it will have to do this without governmental aid, and without indulging in publicity mongering. Whilst the sorts of 'flaps' and media sensationalism we have seen over the past few months might generate a certain amount of low-level interest over a large sample of the population it is unlikely that such publicity will stimulate the academic and intellectual interest that may prove most valuable to any progress in our subject. Although over the past few years there has been a noticeable increase in the amount and quality of 'outside' academic intervention in the UFO field, it is more than noteworthy that this has been almost entirely in those aspects of the problem that are least associated with the ETH party line. Thus, whilst the interest of astronomers and physicists has sunk virtually to nill, the academics who are beginning to take a new interest in the subject are almost all from the behavioural sciences such as sociology and psychology.

The sort of uncritical and slipshod news coverage we have seen of UFO events over the past few months may create a nine-day-wonder amongst the general public but when the initial furore is over, it serves only to reinforce stereotypes.

Most newspaper and TV reporters are not experts on the intricacies of 'New', 'Old', 'Middle', or any other type of ufology, and when writing about it are

prone to use easily managable UFO stereotype that has evolved over the last three decades. This means the ETH, and the message goes out from newspaper and TV stories throughout the world that the UFO question is to be dealt with in terms of interplanetary visitations. This serves to further alienate the physical scientist and discourage any burgeoning interest amongst the behavioural scientists.

Ufologists must drop this desperate belief that all publicity is good publicity. We must let people know we are here, so that we continue to receive first hand reports. But this must be done in a way that inspires confidence amongst the general public, without the bun-fight and jamboree atmosphere that surrounds the efforts of far too many people who should know better. We are, for example, doubtful about the association of hard-liquor companies with UFO research. There are already enough people who would like to degrade UFO research with witless jokes about drunks and deterium tremens, without handing them ammunition on a plate (or in a bottle, as the case may be).

However, the publicity bandwagon of the past few months may have had one good effect. Perhaps it has at last dispelled the illusion that the media are just out to squelch UFO information. They have shown themselves to be as impressionable as the rest of us when confronted with a sensational story or a plausible rogue. These cynical, haribitten news-hounds are just after a good story, like the rest of us.

BOOK REVIEWS

ROBIN-EVANS, Karyl (Edited by David Agamon)
Sungods in Exile. Spearman, 1979. £3.75

This book purports to be the story of the adventures of its author amongst the Dzopa (or Dropa or Drok-pa) people of Tibet. The tale of these people has been told a number of times in the "ancient astronaut" literature; small, stunted people, living in a conveniently remote part of Tibet, who have supposedly come from the skies in the remote past, accompanied by strange gramophone record like discs which

one is led to believe contain the encoded history of these people.

This whole myth, which is supported by no documentary evidence, was demolished in an erudite and scholarly article in FSR (Vol 19, no. 1) by Gordon Creighton. Mr Creighton, who is an expert on oriental languages, points out that the Tibetan word Dzopa (more correctly Drok-pa) far from referring to a race of runtlish dwarfs describes a rugged, robust Highlander of Eastern Tibet.

No along comes Karyl-Evans with his first hand account of life amongst these pygmies, a photograph of one of the famous discs (looking more like a 60's hippie pendant than the remnants of a master-race) and an account from the Dzopa's principal historian of their history and arrival on Earth from planet in Canis Major. Sensational stuff, except for one small point. There seems to be no evidence that either the Dzopa (as described here), Karyl-Robin

Evans, his egrerious secretary Mr Agamon, or the peculiar disc even exist.

An account of the disc is supposedly found in the Journal of Comparative Ethnology, a journal which I have not been able to trace to any British Library. Three people mentioned in the book as being attached to Oxford University do not appear in that body's Calendar for any of the appropriate years. The mysterious disc has vanished into obscurity. Conveniently, when being searched on entering the Dzopa's territory, all Karyl-Evans' photographic films were ruined; and when escaping hurriedly to avoid the consequences of a sexual liason with one of the locals he was, of course, unable to bring out any evidence with him.

The content of the book is a mish-mash of sketchy descriptions of Tibet and most of the more sensational vapourings of the von Daniken brigade. These are more than adequately dealt with in Mr Creighton's article. The book is spiced up with a bit of sex'n'violence and eked out with some very unsubtle political allegories.

Perhaps the most important issue raised by this book is the role of the publisher. If Spearman's accepted this manuscript in good faith, its sensational nature should have prompted them to some background checking. This appears to have been either totally neglected, or done so sloppily that the extremely obvious inconsistencies in the narrative have been entirely overlooked.

Any other explanation can only lead one to the conclusion that the publishers (or the editor) have either changed so much of the original narrative, in respect of names, dates, etc. as to render it meaningless, or have deliberately presented a totally fictional work as fact..

We would rather not believe the latter. In the past Spearman have published many works of a controversial nature. We have not always agreed with the writers of these books, and have said so in our reviews. But these have usually involved questions of interpretation and opinion. There have also been errors of fact, but this appears to be the first time that a book of this nature, presented as a work of genuine research, appears to be total fiction from beginning to end.

Readers may feel that we are wandering on at great length over something that is not particularly important, that this is not the first time that a load of old codswallop has been paraded before a gullible readership as hard fact. But no doubt this book will be accepted uncrit-

ically by many readers, and no doubt its dubious 'evidence' will start cropping up in books and magazines from now on, adding yet another source of pollution to the murky pool of UFO documentation.

Even though this is not the first, or even the worst example of fiction parading as fact, Spearman are a reputable publishers in the occult and fringe science field, and owe us some sort of explanation. (JR)

TARG, Russell and PUTHOFF, Harold
Mind Reach. Paladin, 1978. £1.50

This interesting book includes details of the authors' experiments with Uri Geller, Ingo Swann and other alleged 'sensitives' at the Stanford Research Institute. Many of these experiments involve 'remote viewing', the gaining of impressions of randomly chosen remote locations. One of the processes involves using independent judges to assess a series of locations to see which fitted the 'sensitives' impressions best and placing them in rank order, without knowing which location had been the 'target'.

The authors' case certainly seems impressive, though falling short of the "positive proof ESP exists" claimed by the blurb; at times one would wish for rather more details about the list of potential targets, from which the one used was chosen.

The authors make a clear refutation of many of the statements made by James Randi and Joseph Hanlon, and one is left with no choice but to assume that one side or the other are lying their heads off!

Targ and Puthoff make some interesting comments about psychokinesis, which bear some similarities to my own comments on the UFO phenomenon in "Doves are just middle-class pigeons". They suggest that:

1. ...observed effects (in PK) are never much larger than the background noise always present. (Perhaps) PK involves control over noise signals always present, rather than a generation of new energies - a bringing order out of chaos concept familiar to Eastern traditions
2. PK effects often appear to be the result of coincidence (which) may may indicate a goal oriented synchronicity at a very subtle level beyond the more obvious cause-effect mechanisms.
3. PK effects often appear to be random or spontaneous (which) may indicate a connection with weak quantum effects..

4. The more closely one attempts to observe PK effects the less likely one is to see them

The authors do seem to have been quite level-headed about Geller, especially as they suspected he was a magician hired to discredit their work, and were not impressed by such obvious tricks as the blindfold driving.

I started to read this book expecting a testament to credulity, but ended up quite impressed. It is a pity that the authors' scientific cool cracks in the last chapter, an enthusiastic recital of the alleged benefits of ESP, which failed to rouse your reviewer. (PR)

DARRY, Bill. Ultimate Encounter; the true story of a UFO kidnapping. Pocket Books, 1978, \$1.75.

Yet another account of Travis Walton, this book by a writer on Penthouse magazine concentrates more on the interactions of the principle characters in Snowflake, the Walton's home town. Some interesting sidelights are revealed, for example that the Waltons were very much the town 'outsiders', but the treatment rarely rises above the superficial. (PR)

FORMAN, Joan. The mask of time; the mystery factor in timeslips, precognition and hindsight. Macdonald and Janes, 1978. £4.95.

Included in this book are several accounts by people who claim to have had experiences in which they were transported in time. What interests us is not whether any of these experiences are literal encounters with another time (which we very much doubt), but the quality of phenomenological descriptions of some of these experiences. As summarised by Ms Forman, these include:

1. A silvery light which seems to be present during the timeslip, irrespective of the actual weather conditions.
2. An unusual silence, outside noises seeming to fade
3. An apparent distortion of the planes in the scene viewed
4. A trigger or threshold factor, setting the experience in motion.
5. A feeling of physical unease or malaise in the percipient, preceding the onset of the event.
6. Distortion of sounds or speech, when these are present during the experience.
7. Abruptness of the onset and termination of the experience.

All of these items, particularly 2, 5, and 7 are to be encountered in accounts of alleged UFO experiences.

Timeslips are basically metachoric experiences, in which the percipient(s) find that the environment of consensus reality is replaced by one which appears to the percipient to belong to a past (or more rarely a future) time. The above features seem to be common to all kinds of waking metachoric experiences.

There is even a case in which ambiguous physical evidence, so typical of ufology, is presented. An elderly man went into a shop in Yarmouth and bought some envelopes for his coins. He noted a few period pieces - the Edwardian dress of the lady assistant, her surprise at decimal money, etc., but though nothing of it. Only later, on returning to the shop, did he find that the entire scene had changed and there was no lady assistant. The bag in which the envelopes had been put disintegrated, though the envelopes remained. However examination by the manufacturers indicated that they were simply 10 to 15 year old cellulose film bags, and could not have come from the Edwardian period.

In other cases alleged conversations are reported in timeslips which seem to have the same absurd and trivial character as those described in UFO encounters.

This is a book which will serve to broaden our understanding of the basis of the UFO phenomenon. (PR)

DAVIS, Isabel. Close Encounter at Kelly and others of 1955. CUFOS, 1978, no price stated. (Produced with the assistance of Bud Ledwith, Ted Bloecher and Leonard Stringfield)

The first part of this book is a detailed account of the visitation by humanoids to the farm of Mrs Ellenie Langford (formerly Mrs Sutton) at Kelly, near Hopkinsville, Ky. There were eight adult and three children present.

The case has become a classic, but this report is the first accurate account of the incident (my own summary for INT-CAT is shown to be very inaccurate, and a fresh one will be prepared). The account has been compiled by Ms Davis, based on interviews by Bud Ledwith, a local radio announcer, with the adult members of the family; and with a follow-up by Ms Davis herself conducted in July 1956.

The resultant description of two separate visits by wholly non-human creatures (seemingly unaffected by rifle shot and hardly recognising the existence of the laws of gravity) nicely illustrates the 'absurdity' of such encounters. The hiatus

in the visitation was caused by the family trooping off to the police station, and the descent on the farm of police, reporters, and general sightseers. These found nothing, yet when they had gone the creatures returned.

It is difficult to make any kind of sense of this case at all. Ms Davis tries to jam the facts into a 'nuts and bolts' ETH framework, but the strain is evident. An examination of cases of 'haunting' would, I think, have made the author rather less willing to dismiss completely the theory of hallucinations of some sort.

The introductory and second part of the book are Teil Bloecher's studies of the history of CE3's in the United States up to 1955, and his account of some selected cases from that year.

These provide yet more jolts to reason; they are all incompatible with a nuts and bolts explanation. But nor, for that matter, are they compatible with any reasonably simple psychological theory. What is one to make of chef Robert Hunicutt's encounter with a bunch of lop-sided beings standing at the roadside in Branch Hill; the long nosed dwarves seen by Ms Symmonds; the ghostly craft and beings encountered by the children at Riverside? How do we deal with the case

of David Ankenbrandt who came across a strange aircraft, found himself paralysed and was confronted by a 6-foot-tall man in a skisuit who spoke in a high pitched voice, warning him to tell the government that if there were any more wars 'they' would take over? The same incident occurred at the same place 48 hours later. Ankenbrandt refused to get involved with the Adamski circus, and vanished into history.

The humanoid wave reached mass panic in parts of Cincinnati, where hoaxers were also involved.

Also discussed are a couple of Big-foot reports, though they are small Big-feet! Bloecher is perhaps too easily convinced that these refer to some form of primitive hominid, for the point about Bigfoot is not that he represents any real hominid, but rather the public's conception of what a missing link should look like.

The volume is well illustrated with maps, diagrams and drawings. The investigations show commendable thoroughness and give an idea of the detail a competent investigation should contain.

Highly recommended for anyone making a serious study of the UFO problem.
(FR)



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